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PATENT
Customer No. 22,852
Attorney Docket No. 04208.0183-00000

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:)
Minoru IGARASHI et al.) Group Art Unit: 2839
Application No. 10/619,489) Examiner: Le, Thanh Tam T.
Filed: July 16, 2003) Confirmation No. 8855
For: CONNECTOR FOR)
CONNECTING CIRCUIT BOARDS)

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

AMENDMENT

In reply to the Office Action mailed July 27, 2004, please amend the
above-identified application as follows:

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims in this paper,
beginning on page 2.

Remarks/Arguments follow the amendment sections of this paper, beginning on
page 4.

Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request the Examiner to withdraw the rejection of claim 1. Moreover, claims 3, 4, 7, and 8 are allowable over Chan at least due to their dependence from claim 1.

Claims 9-13

New claims 9-13, while of a different scope, recite limitations similar to those recited in claim 1. For example, claims 9 and 10 recite a "non-elastic engaging portion" and claim 11 recites a "non-elastic metallic holding fixture." Claims 9-11 are therefore allowable over Chan at least for reasons discussed above in regard to claim 1. Further, claims 12 and 13 are allowable at least due to their dependence from claims 9 and 11, respectively.

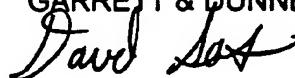
Conclusion

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and reexamination of this application and the timely allowance of the pending claims.

Please grant any extensions of time required to enter this response and charge any additional required fees to our deposit account 06-0916.

Respectfully submitted,

FINNEGAN, HENDERSON, FARABOW,
GARRETT & DUNNER, L.L.P.



By: Reg. No. 34,781

for John M. Romary
Reg. No. 26,331

Dated: October 27, 2004